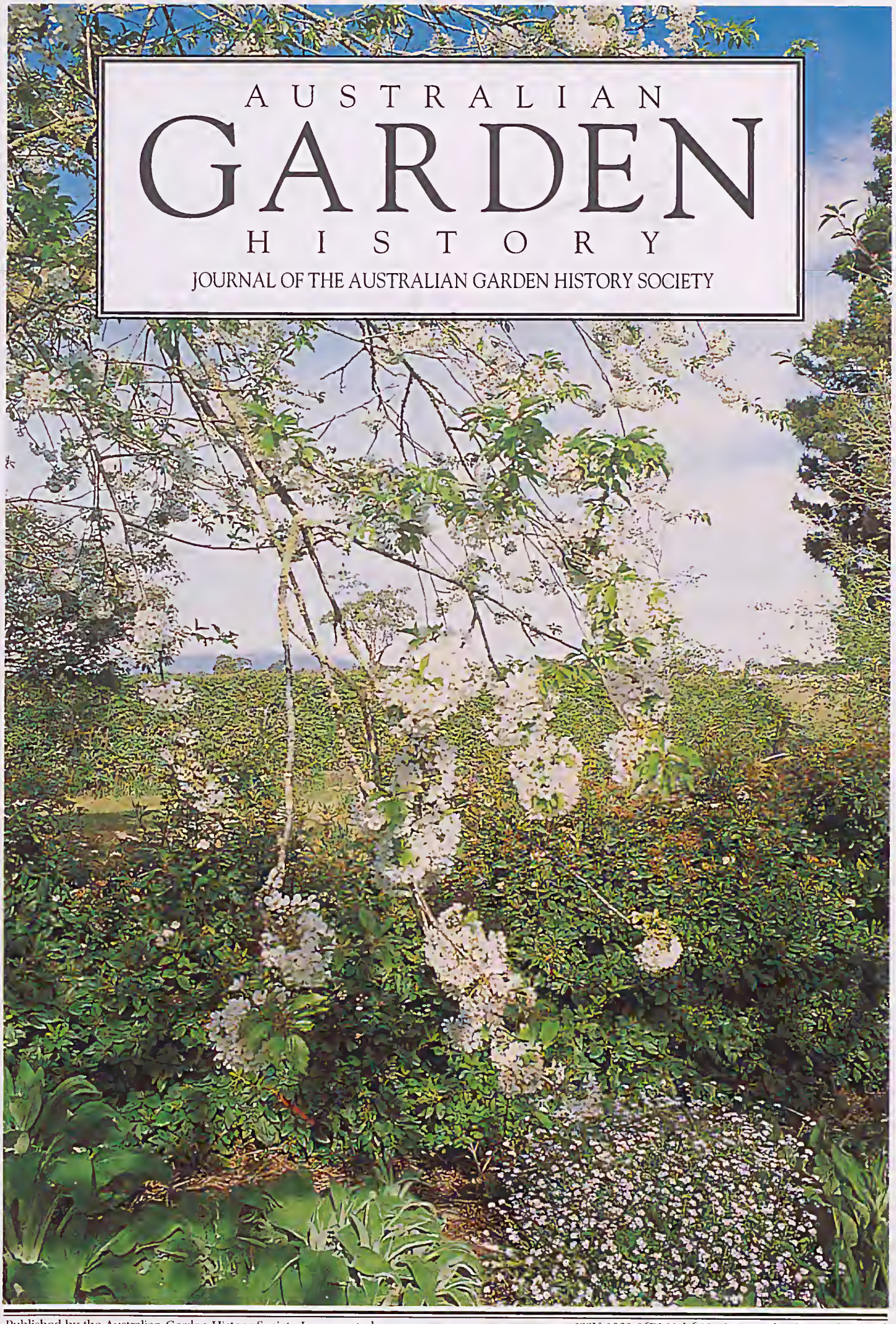
AUSTRALIAN GARDEN HISTORY

JOURNAL OF THE AUSTRALIAN GARDEN HISTORY SOCIETY



Elizabeth Brown/Terra Slides

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Michael Looker is a lecturer at the Victorian College of Agriculture and Horticulture. He is currently undertaking doctoral research in field of botany.

Joan-Law Smith is the Patron of the Australian Garden History Society and is well known for her writing on gardens and gardening.

John Stowar is currently gardening presenter with The Today Show on Channel 9 and is gardening editor for *Woman's Day*. He has published several books including *In Sunshine & Shade*. His garden, Springcroft, in the NSW Southern Highlands, is open as part of Australia's Open Garden Scheme and he is a selector for the scheme.

Cover: Overlooking the adjacent countryside from a small corner of the garden at Hawthorn Park, Tylden (garden of Angela and David Langley who have the business Speciality Seeds). See Nicky Downer's article on page 3.

Garden and Landscape Photography Short Course 1995

A 'hands-on' course suitable for beginners as well as those with some experience. Course run in association with the Victorian Branch of the Australian Garden History Society.

Course to be conducted by Elizabeth Brown (B.A. Fine Art Photography), a professional photographer specialising in gardens and landscape architecture, and with 10 years experience in teaching photography to adults and tertiary students.

COURSE LOCATION: The Astronomer's Residence, near the Herbarium, Royal Botanic Gardens, Melbourne.

COURSE HOURS AND DURATION: 6pm to 9pm (one hour lecture, 2 hours viewing, feedback and discussion of students' work), one night per week for 7 weeks during the first school term, 1995.

TOPICS covered include Technique, Films, Colour, Light, Design, History.

FILM STOCK TO BE USED: Colour Transparency (slide film).

STUDENT NUMBERS: Minimum 10, Maximum 15.

COURSE: $180 (a non-refundable deposit of $50 made payable to the Australian Garden History Society is due by the first week in January 1995 in order to secure a place.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION and a booking form please contact Jackie Couruadias at the Australian Garden History Society, c/ – Royal Botanic Gardens, Birdwood Avenue, South Yarra, Victoria, 3141. Telephone/facsimile (03) 650 5043.

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The Australian Garden History Society was formed in 1980 to bring together those with an interest in the various aspects of garden history—horticulture, landscape design, architecture and related subjects. Its prime concern is to promote interest and research into historic gardens as a major component of the National Estate. It aims to look at garden making in a wide historic, literary, artistic and scientific context.

The editorial content of articles, or the products and services advertised in this journal, do not necessarily imply their endorsement by the Australian Garden History Society.

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1994 Garden History Conference Report

There are different kinds of weariness which tend to overcome people in daily life, but one of the most pleasurable surely is post garden history conference exhaustion, when body and spirit are in a state of collapse because of the intake of a surfeit of information and inspection of large numbers of gorgeous gardens. There is a medically recognised condition of 'Garden Envy' which our Saturday night guest speaker, Christina Hindhaugh, detailed for us, which can also cause post conference problems, but these problems are generally overcome, leaving one with a rosy glow and a rather irritating habit of passing on the information gleaned, gratuitously, to family and friends.

First conference impressions, for those of us from less populous parts of Australia, were definitely about the traffic – the large quantity of it and the slowness at which it moved. But the registration morning involved meeting the familiar faces and being thankful, as always, that the conference organisers provided name tags for conferees. Some faces were remembered from Adelaide in '92, such as Betty Bray and her son, Nicholas, recently returned from a course at Wisley. Lots of excited hellos and screeches of delight filled the conference room at the Royal Exhibition Buildings in Melbourne on the Friday morning.

Following Chairman Margaret Darling's welcome, we heard from Open Garden Scheme Executive Officer Neil Robertson, himself a devotee of Mount Macedon gardens, but with a salient message which advised gardeners not to rely so much on oral history, but concentrate on writing proper records. A few blushes around the room indicated that it's not only me who talks about plantings and never writes anything down. Now I'm sure that Sally Darling with her new garden at Burrawang in New South Wales is doing just that; if only I was as assiduous.

The intention of the day's speakers was to build up a picture of the Macedon area and the problems it faces, as well as the solutions which are being discovered and thus to whet our appetites for the following days exploration of the region. The venerable Frank Moulds of Forest Commission fame began speaking about the forests and the lessons which were learnt following the terrible 1983 bushfires. Next was historian Chris McConville, who spelt out the particular threat of urban sprawl and the possibility of the area becoming a remnant park amidst the suburban morass.

The arguments that followed about who liked what best about Durrol, Dreamthorpe and Duniera were nearly as interesting as the gardens

The intriguing description of the area as the 'Simla of the South' was elaborated by Paul Fox of the Australia Post museum, who detailed the early infiltration of the region by the Press when David Syme applied for permission to build a house in the area in the 1860s. Artistic interest flowered early with Louis Buvelot painting there from the early days. The imperial flavour, so reminiscent of Simla in

The curved drive, like other parts of the garden, presents outstanding views over Kerrie Valley (garden of Joan and John Elder). Victorian committee member Kevin Walsh and conference members on the entrance on the entrance driveway to Ballindean



Elizabeth Brown/Terra Slides



Elizabeth Brown/Terra Slides

The elegant lines of the formal box-edged terrace in front of the house at Ballindean, Kerrie (garden of Joan and John Elder)

India was established when the Governor rented the Syme house for the summer months.

Absolute fascination was developing amongst an attentive audience when Mrs MacKinnon spoke about her garden Durrol, which had been in her family since 1919, and evolved in a particular way, including an Edna Walling sunken garden design. The room was abuzz as we drifted over to lunch and groups formed and re-formed as everyone relaxed and got to know each other better. I was thrilled to see Mick Pfahl, a landscape designer from Bowral, whom I had known in the Canberra days of the early eighties, whose brother recently married Tasmanian Fairie Nielsen's niece. It is a small world, as they say.

Post lunch somnolence was shocked away by the Gisborne Shire engineer Max Gilbert who attacked a tree with a pair of slightly blunt shears to indicate the usual treatment of roadside trees and shared his shire's more sensitive policy of roadside vegetation. Trevor Budge, who studied the Macedon region post bushfire, talked about the development of new attitudes to garden restoration and ways of maintaining the integrity of the area, its heritage and the environment.

The history of the early nurseries of the area belonging to Messrs Taylor & Sangster and Smith, as well as one owned by the State were examined by Francine Gilfedder, who has made a special study of them. Finally Michael Hough, an English academic now working in Canada, fought valiantly against a failing slide projector or two to describe the importance of rural surroundings and their impact on cities. The oasis as the ultimate Utopian ideal and its recreation as parks and gardens in cities all over the world and his work on restoring blighted landscapes gave us food for thought.

The day's final event was the cocktail party at the Victorian State Library, where *camembert en croute* was a highlight of the evening.

The Annual General Meeting never attracts a huge audience but this was well attended and the most memorable quote was when Robin Lewarne, our honoured treasurer, related the cash flow of the year as '$63 million – I mean thousand dollars, I was thinking I was at work'. Obviously Ord Minnett deals in slightly larger amounts than the Australian Garden History Society. A healthy financial situation, in spite of the disappearance of the South Australian account books, plus many and varied activities in the state branches indicate a Society full of new ideas and plans for the future to preserve our past.

The morning's speakers were both distinguished. Greg Moore, a botanist, must be the most optimistic plant man in the western world and explained the value of bushfires and the importance in professional assessment of all plants after fires, which we now must remember to describe as 'high temperature oxidisation'. Stephen Ryan, the nurseryman from Macedon, told us of his early years in the region and the knowledge he gained as a young boy exploring properties without the knowledge of the garden owners. The actions of the garden's modern owners was sometimes horrifying but nonetheless whetted our appetites for what was to follow.

Our four coaches left the Royal Exhibition Buildings for the newly built Jubilee Hall at Macedon, where Barbara Strange's photographs were on display and we feasted on magical rolls and exquisite chocolate biscuits and set off for gardens North.

The arguments that followed about who liked what best about Durrol, Dreamthorpe and Duniera were nearly as interesting as the gardens. The work of the Handburys at Dreamthorpe, its magic gorgeous lake, beautiful woodland with bluebells and the magic of the apple orchard with its

path mown through metres of yellow lilies was praised to the hilt.

We were enchanted by Durrol and the work of Mrs MacKinnon who restored much of it after the bushfire, which opened new vistas and changed the garden's microclimate. We walked on the immaculate moss lawns under the stately Linden trees and explored the sunken garden of Edna Walling fame and were all captivated. The cameras were clicking overtime.

We walked on
the immaculate moss lawns
under the stately Linden trees
and explored the sunken garden
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Duniera, now owned by Stuart Stoneman, is a garden of massive potential with some distinctive features, including a Secret Garden and a quite bizarre *Prunus* with a horizontal trunk. With so many acres, and a wonderful combination of Primroses and Bluebells in the woodland lining the drive, it will surely be preserved as one of Mt Macedon's treasures.

Somehow we all managed to get back to Melbourne and into the Federation Room for dinner that evening, although in my case I was borrowing suitable dinner attire from a variety of other conferees. Although exhausted by garden visiting, we were all woken when Christina Hindhaugh began speaking about the dangers of that well known disease 'Garden Envy' and we would be well advised to take her advice never to enter a garden without a sense of humus!

Now at the risk of going on for too long, I must describe briefly the following days garden visits in the Woodend area. Our group began with Flint Hill, now owned by the Carnegies, where we were most fortunate in hearing early tales of the garden's development from John Brookes, the son of the property's first gardener, Joy Brookes. Now a splendid mixture of trees, azaleas and rhododendrons, we were splendidly entertained at morning tea by the local Country Women's Association.

Later we went on, in different groups, to Sanders Wood, a new garden being developed by an artist, with sweeping lawns and a Japanese influence and to Ballindean, which is the sort of garden my mother always wanted me to have with lots of colour and nary a weed in sight, overlooking a fertile valley with beef cattle truculently gazing over the hedges.

It's hard work being a successful gardener, but even more hard work visiting gardens and being forced by a so-called friend who insisted we climb Hanging Rock in 40 minutes following our picnic. No one disappeared in spite of the Rock's history.

Back in Adelaide that night, I enviously thought of the rest of the group visiting Rupertswood, Erinvale, Bringalbit and Hawthorn Park the next day. Sadly it was back to work for me, tired but quite inspired and extremely grateful to Helen Page, Pam Jellie and the rest of the Victorian committee for organising a splendid conference in a quite magical part of the world. Thanks to you all. I can't wait for Sydney next year.

Nicky Downer

Conference convener Pam Jellie (right) and Victorian Branch Secretary Karen Olsen (left) taking time out in one of the many wonderful niches in the garden at Dreamthorpe (garden of Robyn and Paul Handbury)



Elizabeth Brown/Terra Slides

In Search of Edna's Style

Report on the post-conference Edna Walling Tour

We had some myths dispelled by Richard Aitken's informed talk but Trisha Dixon's masterminding of the post-conference Edna Walling Tour was everything we had hoped for! Through her efforts and Jackie Courmadias' tactful manoeuvrings I am sure all forty eight participants have nothing but fond memories of this trip.

Bickleigh Vale at Mooroolbark was of course the logical starting point and those of us who had never had the chance to visit this magic enclave were bowled over by its special flavour. It proves it is not an unrealistic ideal to live within a grove of mixed exotic and Australian species, where filtered sun lights the limbs of majestic trees, clumped shrubs provide enclosure and privacy, and simple gates link the nostalgically named cottages – Mistover, Lynton Lea, and The Barn – Edna's home for many years. In this delightful spot where naturalness and order so superbly intertwined, we lunched sumptuously – the first location of an apparently endless four day feasting.

At Cruden Farm, while Edna's hand was clearly evident in the stone walling and some of the early planted trees, inspiration was just as much imparted by Dame Elisabeth Murdoch with her vitality and enthusiasm; even embarking on ambitious garden changes in her eighties. She clearly demonstrated that a garden is never finished – that we all continuously search for improvement, even though perfection would surely be not be too generous a description of her garden – a garden which exudes supreme design skills and immaculate maintenance.

Peggy Muntz under a halo of Wisteria on the Edna Walling Tour



Trisha Dixon



Trisha Dixon

John Stowar among the famous Lemon Scented Gums of Cruden Farm

Eurambeem, Narigal, Ardgarten, Mawarra, and the Cuming garden all revealed design elements we now associate with Edna, but perhaps most at Boortkoi was revealed the essence of her magic – a poetic tension between order and wildness. Privet hedges were neatly clipped, enclosing stone walls and steps elegantly and solidly executed, mature trees well placed, and enticing mown paths invited exploration through 'meadow' landscapes.

In spite of enjoying every minute, I am sure each one of us had itchy fingers for every one of the ideas revealed. Where to site our Amalfi-style pergola? How do we find (and fund) a team of Italian stonemasons and a supply of stone for wall construction? When to begin or expand our 'wild' garden?

It was truly staggering how dramatically most gardens had changed over the last sixty years or so, but their appeal was universal. And I believe the strong structure imparted principally by walls and steps achieved this, ensuring the gardens of Edna Walling will always remain significant gardens in time.

John Stowar

New Research Tool for Garden History

The Database on Australian Gardens and Horticulture

Background to the Database

The need for a database or index of source material to assist in research on Australian historic gardens has long been felt. A very brief bibliography of garden history sources was compiled in 1978-80 when national surveys of historic gardens were being undertaken and in 1990 the Australian Garden History Society (Victorian Branch) published the first comprehensive bibliography of garden history sources for that state. Many individual researchers have compiled card indexes and lists to aid their own research but these are private sources and not generally accessible to others. Other lists produced by libraries and academic institutions provide further detail but there is no comprehensive index which researchers can consult to find information on Australia's historic gardens and horticultural traditions.

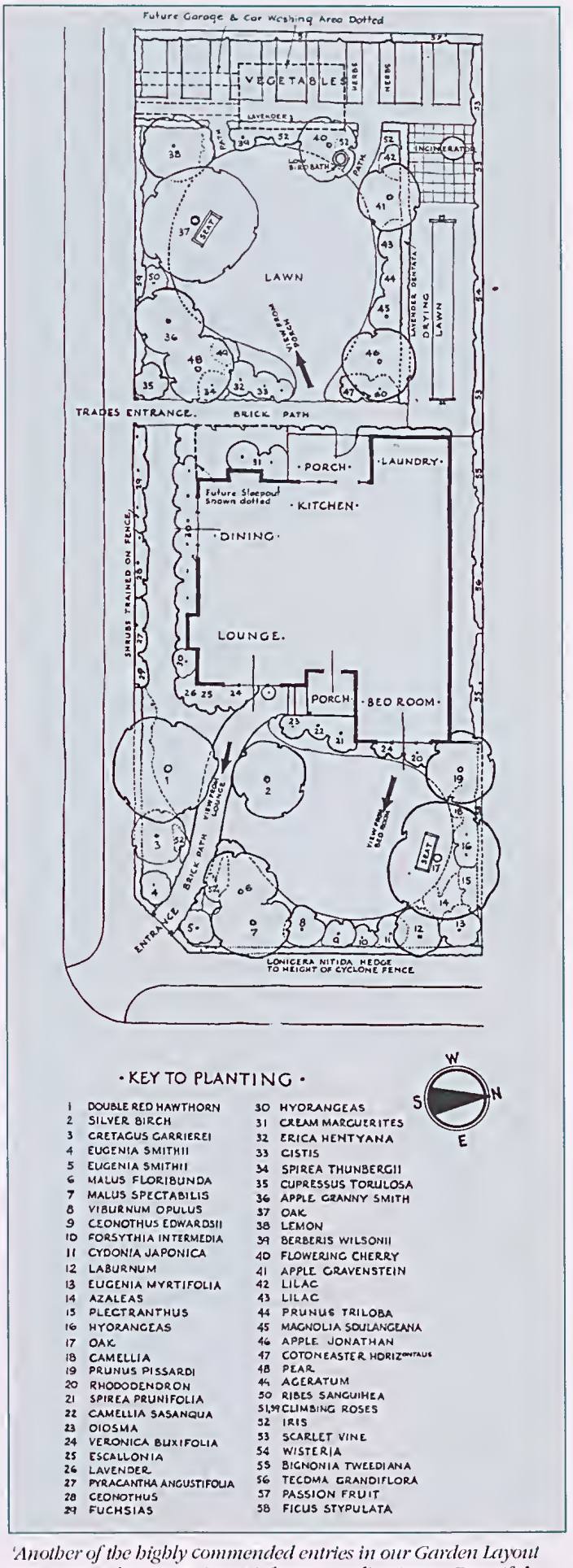
The Australian Architects Index, instigated by Dr Miles Lewis at the University of Melbourne, is an essential tool for researchers in Victoria and the Correspondence of Ferdinand von Mueller Project, despite its tight parameters, is an indispensable aid to garden history research. The idea of a comprehensive garden history database has often been canvassed but always the problems of compilation and administration have defeated attempts to commence.

The impetus for the Database on Australian Gardens and Horticulture has come from the research effort for a major new publication on Australian gardens. Richard Aitken and Michael Looker have recently been commissioned by Oxford University Press to act as editors for a forthcoming title *The Oxford Companion to Australian Gardens* due for publication in 1998. The *Companion* will cover a broad range of Australian gardens, garden types and styles, horticultural techniques, plants, as well as biographical entries on Australian gardeners, designers, horticulturists, botanists, nursery proprietors and patrons. The editors will write many entries but the *Companion* will also draw on the talents of many Australian and some overseas scholars through research or authorship of individual entries. The authors will be selected on the basis of specialist knowledge.

In February 1994, after considerable discussion of the Companion project, the National Management Committee of the Australian Garden History Society unanimously passed a resolution which:

- supported and endorsed the project, acknowledging its close correlation with the aims and objectives of the Society;
- acknowledged the benefits of the project (including the complementary Database) to membership of the Society; and
- offered the Society's expertise and support in the initial stages of the project by way of suggested additions to the list of headwords (especially individual gardens, practitioners and related topics).

To give the *Companion* project a public face, the editors embarked on the establishment of a comprehensive database. It is intended that compilation of the Database on Australian Gardens and Horticulture would be supervised by the editors and representatives of funding bodies but it is the



• KEY TO PLANTING •

1	DOUBLE RED HAWTHORN	30	HYORANGEAS
2	SILVER BIRCH	31	CREAM MARGUERITES
3	CRETAGUS GARRIEREI	32	ERICA HENTYANA
4	EUGENIA SMITHII	33	CISTIS
5	EUGENIA SMITHII	34	SPIREA THUNBERGII
6	MALUS FLORIBUNDA	35	CUPRESSUS TORULOSA
7	MALUS SPECTABILIS	36	APPLE GRANNY SMITH
8	VIBURNUM OPULUS	37	OAK
9	CEONOTHUS EDWARDSII	38	LEMON
10	FORSYTHIA INTERMEDIA	39	BERBERIS WILSONII
11	CYDONIA JAPONICA	40	FLOWERING CHERRY
12	LABURNUM	41	APPLE GRAVENSTEIN
13	EUGENIA MYRTIFOLIA	42	LILAC
14	AZALEAS	43	LILAC
15	PLECTRANTHUS	44	PRUNUS TRILOBA
16	HYORANGEAS	45	MAGNOLIA SOULANGEANA
17	OAK	46	APPLE JONATHAN
18	CAMELLIA	47	COTONEASTER HORIZONTALIS
19	PRUNUS PISSARDI	48	PEAR
20	RHODODENDRON	49	AGERATUM
21	SPIREA PRUNIFOLIA	50	RIBES SANGUINEA
22	CAMELLIA SASANQUA	51,59	CLIMBING ROSES
23	OIOSMA	52	IRIS
24	VERONICA BUXIFOLIA	53	SCARLET VINE
25	ESCALLONIA	54	WISTERIA
26	LAVENDER	55	BIGNONIA TWEEDIANA
27	PYRACANTHA ANGUSTIFOLIA	56	TECOMA GRANDIFLORA
28	CEONOTHUS	57	PASSION FRUIT
29	FUCHSIAS	58	FICUS STYPULATA

'Another of the highly commended entries in our Garden Layout Competition by Miss B. Mann', from Australian Home Beautiful *January 1940, currently being indexed*



'A real garden with three feet of soil, a lawn, a fish pond, tiled walks, a wishing globe, and a very choice selection of trees and shrubs set high above the busiest part of sydney', from Australian Home Beautiful *April 1940*

intention that the information would flow freely to researchers and at the end of the project a propriatorial interest would remain with those who have financially assisted with its compilation. Funding would come from a diverse range of sources and the scope of entries could be tailored to suit the requirements of the funding body. Models for such projects include the University of Melbourne Architects Index (edited by Miles Lewis), the Correspondence of Ferdinand von Mueller Project, the British Garden History Society's recently commenced documentation of historic gardens project and the US Catalog of Landscape Records.

Again the Australian Garden History Society has been a strong supporter of the Database on Australian Gardens and Horticulture project. In June 1994 the National Management Committee of the Australian Garden History Society unanimously passed a resolution which provided funds over three years to provide consultant research assistance. The results of this funded research will become the property of the Australian Garden History Society. The initial funding has been used to employ several research assistants to assist in compilation of the Database.

Objectives and scope of the Database

The Database on Australian Gardens and Horticulture has the following objectives:

- to provide a general reference base for authors and researchers in the area of Australian gardens and horticultural traditions;
- to compile a bibliography of both primary and secondary sources related to the subject area;
- to assist in the identification and documentation of significant gardens and designed landscapes; and
- to assist in the identification of gaps in knowledge and permit these areas to be covered by new research projects.

The database will include the following areas:

- biographical information
- garden types and styles
- references to specific gardens or designed landscapes
- general influences and trends in horticulture and garden design
- the evolution of gardening techniques in Australia

The database will be primarily compiled from:

- gardening and horticultural journals, with a balanced selection to enable a comprehensive chronological and geographical coverage
- annual reports, periodical publications (such as *Yates' Garden Guide*) and year books (e.g. the Australian Rose Annual)
- published primary sources (e.g. gardening books, especially those that contain advertisements or include information on specific gardens)
- manuscript sources, such as plans and photographs, in both public and private collections (with appropriate levels of acknowledgment of items in private collections)
- existing notes compiled by researchers and scholars (where permission can be gained)

Great care is being taken to avoid overlap and duplication of effort with related projects and databases such as HERA, the Australian Heritage Commission database which currently abstracts many journals of interest to garden history researchers.

Format and style of the Database

Technical support for the Database software has been provided by the Victorian College of Agriculture and Horticulture – Burnley Campus. The software is based on dBASE III and has been expressly written for the project by Jamie Pearson, a computing lecturer at VCAH (Burnley). The Database also has the facility to download word processed data, so long as it is formatted in the appropriate manner.

A style guide has been prepared to ensure a consistency of style and format for those entering data. A thesaurus of words and phrases is also being progressively developed to facilitate keyword searching.

There are four fields for every record: Author, Publication, Summary and Keywords. The author field will include the name of the author as well as the names of any person or organisation to which the article refers or which are pertinent. The publication field will include references in a standard form. The summary field will include a precis of the work (especially if this is given by the author), direct quotes (if these best catch the information or flavour of the work), a note of relevant photographs, illustrations, plans, bibliographies and references (i.e. to give a guide to the researcher of the value of the work), and, for manuscripts, the location or source of information. The aim of the summary is to convey essential information to the researcher and if possible, avoid the need to go back to the primary source. If the article or work is of such complexity or interest that recourse to the original source seems desirable, sufficient information will be conveyed to enable the researcher to assess the value of the material to their own research. The keyword field will used as a quick means of searching for specific topics or names.

Current progress

The Database currently includes approximately 800 entries.

The initial 300 entries were taken from the publication entitled *Garden history and historic gardens in Victoria: a bibliography of secondary sources*, compiled and published by the Australian Garden History Society (Victorian Branch) in 1990.

Initial abstracting of primary sources for the Database has concentrated on the journal *Australian Home Builder* (1922-26) and its successor *Australian Home Beautiful*. This influential journal, published by the Herald and Weekly Times, is still published and was selected because of its foremost place amongst the contemporary horticultural press, its wide geographical coverage and its relative ease of access to researchers. To date, the period 1922-1935 has been partially covered, with detailed coverage from 1927-35. Each issue is yielding approximately 10 entries so that the projected abstracting of the period 1922-60 may yield over 4,500 entries for this journal alone. To date, this work has largely been undertaken with research funding from the Australian Garden History Society.

Horticultural references in the journal *Jarrah*, the official organ of the West Australian Forest League (1918-20) have also been abstracted by as part of the trial of the Database software. This has yielded useful references in relation to avenues of honour commemorating the Great War and also to items of West Australian interest.

Trial entries have also been added from *Australian Garden History*, the *Journal of the Royal Australian Historical Society*, *Trust News* (Victoria) and early issues of *Vogue's Guide to Living* (forerunner of *Vogue Living*).

The database is currently incorporating research notes from several garden history scholars. Sydney researcher Colleen Morris, who has recently completed a thesis on the influence of J.C. Loudon in Australia, has very kindly consented to her notes from Loudon's *Gardener's Magazine* (1826-43) being be added to the database. This includes all substantial references to Australia in the journal and also many useful references to garden design of this period.

Dr John Foster was well known for his garden history research and writing, and his untimely death earlier this year robbed Australia of an influential author and scholar. (For an appreciation of his scholarship in this field see *Australian Garden History*, 6 (1), July/August 1994, pp.13-14). With the blessing of his executors and the close co-operation of a colleague, Dr John Rickard of Monash University History Department, John Foster's research notes are steadily being added to the Database. These are the product of more than a decade's work and are particularly strong for Victoria in the period 1856-1920 although there is much that is national in its scope. The research notes are taken from newspapers, journals, manuscripts and monographs. This will in time be a highly significant addition to the Database and will bring Dr Foster's meticulous research to a new audience.

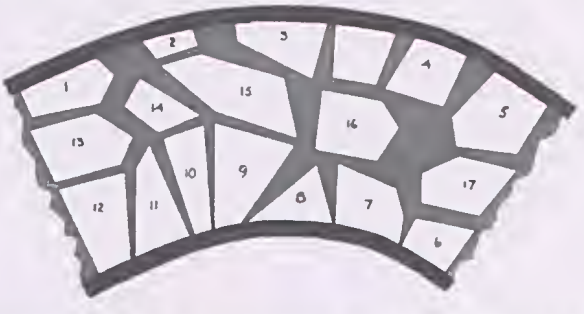
Research notes held by the editors, Richard Aitken and Michael Looker, are also being added to the Database as time permits.

Funding

All costs associated with the development of the Database software have been met by the Victorian College of Agriculture and Horticulture. As well considerable time has been given by the editors to ensure that the database software is both technically and intellectually adapted to the needs of the project.



'A crazy path of natural stone in a lovely garden at Macedon', and an accompanying diagram, from Australian Home Beautiful *June 1940*



Victoria College of Agriculture and Horticulture has also generously assisted the project by the provision of a laptop computer, at a cost of some $3,000.

Seeding funding extending over a period of three years has also been made available from the Australian Garden History Society. The benefits of this support are almost incalculable, due to the primary position of the Society in this field and also the confidence of the Society in the benefits and substance of the project. The initial funding is being used to employ several part-time research assistants to abstract material from *Australian Home Beautiful*, commencing in 1926. Those employed at present are Karen Olsen, Lindl Lawton and Helen Doyle, who are currently engaged for an average of 1 day per week for a 6 month period.

Other funding sources are currently being explored and all assistance in this area would be welcomed. By an arrangement with the Australian Garden History Society and the Australian Council of National Trusts, all donations to the Database project are fully tax deductible.

In future issues of this journal it is planned to publish news of progress with the database. Detailed progress reports will also be produced and any members who wish to be placed on the mailing list for these should write to Database on Australian Gardens and Horticulture, C/– Michael Looker, VCAH – Burnley, Swan Street, Richmond, Victoria, 3121.

Richard Aitken and *Michael Looker*

Plants in Garden History: *An illustrated history of plants and their influence on garden styles – from ancient Egypt to the present day,* by Penelope Hobhouse, first published 1992, soft back edition published by Pavilion Books, London, 1994. ISBN: 1 85793 2730

At the recent Greening Australia Conference in Fremantle, I understand that debate was intense and protracted about the relative values of planting indigenous or exotic plants. Philosophies were espoused, practicalities explained and feelings ran high.

All those interested in the value of plants, the history of their use and their movement around the planet would do well to read this book by Penelope Hobhouse, who takes on the task of describing how attitudes to plants have evolved, how these have related to the movement from one geographical area to another and the development of horticultural techniques over human history.

As she says in her introduction, this is a difficult task, since it is linked to such broad and varied areas of scholarship. The study of plants has also in the past tended to be subsumed by the history of garden and landscape design or botany, so her approach has little precedent.

> plants growing in gardens – as opposed to exotics nurtured in artificial conditions or mummified in herbaria

Nevertheless, Mrs Hobhouse has proceeded to describe and discuss 'plants growing in gardens – as opposed to exotics nurtured in artificial conditions or mummified in herbaria' and has produced an extremely valuable volume, made more so by the extensive graphic support. This includes technical drawings of plans and perspective, and aerial views as well as paintings and images that have been influential in promoting plant species or arrangements through history. As someone who has taught planting design at tertiary level and used Mrs Hobhouse's other books for that purpose, I can only say I wish that this volume had been available to assist me earlier. The illustrations are a delight.

The means that structure the author has used in this volume is a roughly historical sequence, with selected 'diversions' to cover particular people or places where these seemed appropriate. This makes the volume useful for 'dipping into', to check on a period, person, species or place. This structure also seems essential because one of the difficulties that becomes apparent on reading, is that no matter what means is employed, such a book tends to become a maze of plant names and types of the most eclectic and continuing variety. This seems to be inherent in the topic and a manifestation of the fundamentally complex nature of human interest, collection, experimentation and the subsequent adoption or rejection of species for cultivation. And of course, it demonstrates that plant use manifests as much as anything else, that eternally ephemeral aspect of human culture, fashion.

The book concentrates on the western hemisphere, moving from the ancient origins of plant use in the gardens of the Middle East and the Mediterranean, through Islam and the medieval world, the Renaissance, France and eighteenth century England to the modern period of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries in Europe and North America. This story is overlaid by short essays on the great plantsmen and botanists, the evolution of botanical and horticultural knowledge and the major movements of plant species that accompanied all periods of human exploration, conquest and colonisation.

> plant use manifests as much as anything else, that eternally ephemeral aspect of human culture, fashion

The influence or otherwise of Australian flora on other cultures is briefly covered in the latter discussions and there is an interesting introduction to the historical use of indigenous species as part of the evolving environmental movement of late last century and this. Influential designers (although often little known in Australia) with particular approaches to the use of plants are also included in this discussion such as Warren Manning, Jens Jensen, Beatrix Farrand and William Robinson. The progression from the influences of the Picturesque to the Gardenesque is also well covered and contributes to an understanding of current popular attitudes.

Anyone who is interested in plants and their use as expressions of cultural attitudes, and evolution, will find this an important volume, as will the specialist horticulturists designers who may want simply to know more about what plant came from where, when. The particular orientation of the author makes it an invaluable addition to the more traditional volumes as plants as horticultural items or as elements of landscape design. It adds a new dimension which, one hopes, will be developed further in the future, and enriches all our libraries.

Cathrin Bull

Live-in Gardener Required

A live-in gardener is required to maintain a century-old Mt Macedon garden of six acres. Responsibilities include care of traditional exotic plantings of roses, rhododendrons, large trees and other perennials as well as tennis and croquet lawns and swimming pool. Scope for further restoration/refinement if applicant desires creative input. ability to maintain equipment and do basic repairs an advantage. Accommodation includes a modern mud-brick cottage suitable for single person or child-free couple.

Please send application giving experience and references c/o Gardener, PO Box 110, Mt Macedon.

Enquiries (03) 419 0959 weekdays or (054) 261 302 weekends.

LETTER

Double Bay
NSW 2028

Last year (*AGH* Vol. 5 No. 2 September/October 1993) you published a stereo photograph of a house and garden together with a letter seeking to have the property identified.

The enclosed illustration, taken forty years later, came from Charles Barrett's *Australia in Pictures*. It shows the same property from a point slightly to the left of that from which the earlier photograph was taken. In the text it is only identified as 'House and Garden, Mt Lofty', but I understand the name of the house is Wensleydale.

Richard Clough
July 1994



CALENDAR OF EVENTS (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16)

lecture, 2 hours viewing, feedback and discussion of students' work), one night per week for 7 weeks during the first school term, 1995. **TOPICS COVERED** include Technique, Films, Colour, Light, Design, History. **FILM STOCK TO BE USED:** Colour Transparency (slide film). **STUDENT NUMBERS:** Minimum 10, Maximum 15. **COURSE:** $180 (a non-refundable deposit of $50 made payable to the Australian Garden History Society is due by the first week in January 1995 in order to secure a place. **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION** and a booking form please contact Jackie Courmadias at the Australian Garden History Society, c/ – Royal Botanic Gardens, Birdwood Avenue, South Yarra, Victoria, 3141. Telephone/facsimile (03) 650 5043.

MARCH 1995

VICTORIAN BRANCH

- Saturday 18

The Living Sculptures of Edna Walling – A gourmet brunch and a private viewing of The Living Sculptures of Edna Walling with an introductory talk by Rae Rogers. Also, exhibitions of architectural landscapes by Walter Burley Griffin and Marion Lucy Mahony and Charles Bush self portraits. **VENUE:** McClelland Gallery, Studio Park, McClelland Drive, Langwarrin. **COST:** $25.00 per head which includes gourmet brunch. **TIME:** 9.00am to 12 noon **ENQUIRIES:** (03) 6505043

MAY 1995

VICTORIAN BRANCH

- Saturday 6-Friday 12

Lord Howe Island. Guided tour with Rodger Elliot of this magnificent Island with its unique flora, fauna and history. **CONTACT & BOOKINGS:** National Office (03) 650 5043

What's In a Name

Language

Flower turns to seed, and seed becomes a flower;
One seed makes many flowers, one flower much seed;
Thus from a word does mighty thinking breed,
And simple thoughts, to great, increase the dower.
Are not old words old thoughts new set to power –
Late visible where we, late-come, may read,
To lose by them the low place of the weed,
And climb, where, if unlearned, we still must cower?
Speak not of history in stone: for I
Can show you history deeper yet;
The simple works nor youth nor age forget,
Passed lip to lip, as centuries go by;
The caravans of time these leave behind –
Shards from which make ladders for the minds.

Mary Gilmore

In this century we are witnessing many changes in the use of language to shape and express our thoughts. We have the new bible, robbed of its poetry and power; new combinations of words are needed to aptly describe the space and technological age in which we live. 'Journalese' and jargon take the stage in our newspapers, and a poverty of thought is often displayed in the 'slang-wang' of the parliament. We have such a beautiful language it is painful, on occasions, to see it prostituted in this manner. Not even John Betjeman could have envisaged quite the kind of alterations which have occurred when he wrote that 'endless changes can be rung, on church bells of the English tongue'.

Only a scholar could divine such a vast subject, however I would like to turn away from the main river of action, to a quieter-flowing stream of thought – the changes in language which confront the gardener in the horticultural domain.

I have always been fascinated by the beautiful plant names which are in the Latin-Greek terminology: *humulus, gracilis, fragilis,* and *nobilis,* to mention only a few that so poetically convey their form and habit of growth.

There are many changes being made by botanists in the re-naming of some of the plant species by reverting to their original names, albeit confusing for the gardener, but, in so doing, their alterations are logical and the beauty of the Latin-Greek nomenclature is not harmed – therefore with it I hold no argument.

I often wonder why in our generation, people seemingly do not have the time or inclination to dream up such enchanting common names for hybrids, as previous generations found for species. Their christenings were so apt, quite free of vulgarity, often from the heart, not the reason.

Leaving aside the commercially driven truncation of flower names, as in the style of Dame Edna – it is the actual naming of some of the hybrids and cultivars which disappoint me. The eye-catching words 'novelty' and 'new' seem to feed the modern horticultural hunger for change for change's sake, irrespective of whether the newcomer is deserving of merit, let alone immortality.

As the hybridisers are devoting their energies to breeding bigger flowers, perhaps this random sampling, which I have taken from growers' catalogues, illustrates better than anything more I can say.

These newcomers bear such names – not simple monikers: we have a *Buddleia* 'Drama Girl': a *Calendula* 'Radio'; an *Anemone* 'Radar'; and *Armeria,* of all things is called 'Vindictive'; a *Brodiaea* 'Fire Cracker'; a *Chrysanthemum* 'Flash'; and another 'Headliner'; a *Coreopsis* 'Dazzler'; a Cactus 'Klondyke Orange Flare' and another 'Lady Killer'; and why an unoffending *Skimmia* should be called 'Rubella' puzzles me. Even a new *Fuchsia* is 'Fancy Pants'. Furthermore the epithet 'Sensation' is tacked on to a range of coloured flowers *ad nauseum.* Be that as it may – enough is enough. How about all that for a well-tempered garden! When the thesaurus and dictionaries are brimming over with imaginative alternatives.

One redeeming example, (and there surely must be others), is the Rose-breeder David Austin's Chaucer series of bush Roses. Another Rose-breeder, A.M. Meilland in France, produced a yellow Rose, in the year of the armistice, nearly fifty years ago, and he aptly named it 'Peace'.

To turn the pages back in time to those common names of species, and thinking of Mary Gilmore's words, the ones 'nor youth nor age forget, passed lip to lip as centuries go by'. Many have been immortalised in poetry and literature and are woven into the very fabric of our lives. We keep faithful to certain simplicities which were ours from childhood onwards. The following few bear the touchstone of familiarity for I planted and tended them in my former garden:

'Daffodils', 'Snow Drops', 'Snowflakes' and 'Bluebells' – all common names which spread throughout the garden; *Alyssum,* 'Sweet Alice' grew in the interstices of the paving and brick paths: *Clematis,* aptly called 'Old Man's Beard' draped themselves over the walls of the rose garden. 'Buttercups' were there with 'Cowslips': *Alchemilla mollis* 'Lady's Mantle' held drops of water on each tiny point of its orbicular leaves – enchanting to see after dew or rain; *Amaranthus* 'Love Lies Bleeding' or 'Joseph's Coat' is the divine Amaranth – in myth, the never-fading flower of heaven; *Narcissus triandrus* is 'Silver Chimes'; *Armeria* is 'Thrift'; *Ranunculus* 'Bachelor Buttons'; a Poplar species is 'Balm of Gilead' because its sap had healing properties; *Dianthus* is simply referred to as 'Pinks', but it was customary to describe perfect manners in Shakespeare's time as being 'the very pink of courtesy', as he wrote in *Romeo and Juliet.* Then there were the Geraniums we know as 'Cranesbills' – *Nigella* 'Love-in-the-mist', Solomon's Seal has been christened with other-worldly names – 'Ladder to Heaven', 'Holy Mary's Tears' or 'David's Harp' because from its soaring leafy stems hang exquisite white bell-shaped flowers: Rue is the 'Herb of Grace'; Briar Rose 'Eglantine'; *Lonicera* 'Honeysuckle' or 'Woodbine; *Stachys lanata* 'Lambs' Ears' or 'Saviour's Flannel'; *Convallaria* – 'Lily of the Valley'; *Digitalis* – 'Foxgloves'; *Colombines* – 'Granny's Bonnets' (although we call the new hybrids by that same name, they bear slight resemblance to the originals as their large, long-spurred flowers now look upwards – they are brazen hussies by comparison, their meekness gone.) *Nepeta* was there, but we called it 'Catmint'; and *Vinca minor* – or 'Joy of the Ground', which it was, and it was brought to England by the Romans who made wreaths from its neat flowers and shiny leaves. *Campanula* – the much-loved 'Canterbury Bells' and lastly *Trillium grandiflorum* of springtime which has quite my favourite soubriquet 'Wake Robin'

I think it was Carlyle who said 'the giving of names is a poetic art'. Why has that talent been lost which was possessed by the soul who called the flower 'Forget-me-Not'?

Joan Law-Smith



Polygonatum multiflorum, *Solomon's Seal, 'Ladder to Heaven' or 'Holy Mary's Tears' with white-naped honeyeater*

Joan Law-Smith

National News

Editorship of AGHS journal

The current editor of *Australian Garden History*, David Beaver, has indicated his wish to step down from this position. David had ably edited the journal since 1992, a total of 15 issues. At the Society's Annual General Meeting, Chairman Margaret Darling thanked David for his hard work and congratulated him on the maintenance of a high standard for the Society's journal.

At its meeting on 20 October 1994, the AGHS National Management Committee resolved to allocate increased resources towards the journal, due to its high profile as the official publication of the Society. As part of that decision, it was decided that some of the increased funding could be used to provide payment to the editor. Therefore, the National Management Committee is seeking expressions of interest for the position of journal editor. Further details are available from Margaret Darling on (03) 866 5092 or Jackie Courmadias on (03) 650 5043. Expressions of interest should be submitted in writing to the AGHS office by 20 December 1994.

Toll free telephone number

The Australian Garden History Society head office now has a toll free telephone number 1800 678 446. Anyone from outside the Melbourne metropolitan area who wishes to ring the office or leave a message or a fax can do so free of charge.

Renewal Notices

A note to all members – it is no longer the policy of the Society to send out all the membership renewal notices in June. Members should now receive their renewal notices approximately one month before their membership expires. For the information of members, the date of subscription expiry is printed on the address label of each mailout.

Assistance with journal

Thanks to those who assisted packing the last journal: Helen Page, Alicia Murdoch, Di Ellerton, Ashley Russell, Laura Lewis, John and Beverley Joyce.

Annual General Meeting, 22 October 1994

The Society's Fourteenth Annual General Meeting was held at Melbourne's Royal Exhibition Buildings on 22 October 1994. The Chairman's report was included in the Society's annual report (included with the last journal mail out) and Margaret Darling highlighted major achievements of the past year. Treasurer Robin Lewarne spoke to the annual financial statement, indicating that the Society's financial situation was sound. An election was not required for the elected representatives of the National Management Committee as there were no vacancies. The appointment of State representatives was confirmed and the AGM ended with a brief discussion, with several questions from the members present.

State news

ACT/Monaro/Riverina Branch

Winter Seminar and Garden Tour – Cooma district 6-7 August 1994

Who said there's no life in a winter garden? Certainly no-one at this weekend could say so now – it was from start to finish a celebration of pleasures to be had in and around winter gardens, inside and outside the house. The celebrated treeless plains of the Monaro with their drying winds, frosts, snow and summer drought clearly test the skills of gardeners, and one can but wonder at what can be achieved amongst such climatic extremes.

Based in the historic Traveller's Rest Inn (now called Past Times) outside Cooma, about 120 people from as far away as Armidale, Sydney and Melbourne gathered for the seminar. The venue itself was a highlight, having been lovingly restored by owners Gay and David Epstein, who also provided welcoming fires and lashings of good food to soften the effect of the outside chill. Behind the Inn is a glazed conservatory where the talks were held, and this sun-trap, looking into the walled formal garden paved with cobbles and filled with herbs and alpine daisies, was inspiration enough of the power of garden design to provide solace and delight from a harsh climate.

Gay Epstein's formal kitchen garden was another treat and a tribute to a gardener's perseverance, whimsy and care in a short period of time. Sheltered from the Monaro winds by barberry hedges and thick mulch, it is a lush tribute to European *physick* gardens like Gruyere in Switzerland, English allotments and the organic oasis of Findhorn in a wild part of Scotland. Laid bare in winter its formal structure could be clearly seen, with paths of gravel and recycled cobbles from the streets of Sydney's Darling Harbour. Photographs showed the transformation in summer with a wealth of flowers, fruits and vegetables billowing over paths and arbors.

The speaker, Pat Bowley, presented a wide array of plants flowering in the winter months, such as the Japanese apricot tree, (*Prunus mume*), the shrub wintersweet (*Chimonanthos praecox*), bulbs like snowflakes, *Leucojum* 'Graveti' and perennials such as Algerian/Stylosa iris (*I. unguicularis*). As well as flowers he singled out bark colour, on trees like golden willow (*Salix chrysocoma*), cherries (*Prunus serrulata*) and dogwoods (*Cornus alba* 'Sibirica' (scarlet)). Pat noted that the best coloured bark comes from stooling or coppicing trees or shrubs to keep the wood young and control size. He cited form/branch structure as worthy reasons alone to choose trees and shrubs for winter, with examples like English elms (*Ulmus procera*) and winter hazel (*Corylopsis spicata*). Also celebrated were 'dead' plants bearing fruits or just as a whole – like Chinese plumbago (*Ceratostigma plumbaginoides*) – noting that brown is a colour often forgotten for a gardener's palette. Pat also cited plants worth growing for their foliage tints in winter, such as wormwoods, *Artemisia* spp. (silver), the dwarf heavenly bamboo (*Nandina domestica* 'Pygmaea') (cherry red) and *Pittosporum* x 'Tom Thumb' (purple). Fruits were listed too, like holly (*Ilex aquifolium*) (red/yellow) and gold dust bush (*Aucuba japonica*) (red). Pat wisely cautioned against the over-enthusiastic planting of winter-feature plants leading to a diminishing of the power of spring in the garden.

Bill Peterie of Dealbata Nursery at Delegate, paid tribute to Australian native plants for winter colour, with an emphasis on species local to the Monaro region. Wattles like the Cootamundra (*Acacia baileyana*) and the silver, (*Acacia dealbata*) were cited for their cheering golden bloom and their silvery blue foliage. A form of the small dagger wattle (*Acacia siculformis*) was noted for its burgundy foliage and September flowers. The woolly grevillea (*Grevillea lanigera*) (red flowers through winter) and *Grevillea arenaria* (red/green flowers in summer) were also noted for their soft grey leaves in winter. *Crowea exalata* has pink flowers from May to July and bronze new growth. Eucalypts were celebrated for both leaf colour when coppiced/heavily pruned, such as the Argyle apple, *Eucalyptus cinerea* (silver-blue) or powder/Bredbo gum (*Eucalyptus pulverulenta*) (blue). Other gums were noted for spectacular bark colour, like the Manna gum (*Eucalyptus viminalis*) (shiny white or salmon) or the snow gum (*Eucalyptus pauciflora*) (cream, grey, white and red).

Pam Scott ably demonstrated how a sculptor's eye and knack can transform the most unlikely plant material into twig baskets, wreaths, trays and even pure sculpture (her life-size Mr Willow and a proposed woolly sheep from corky elm branches exploded any preconceived notions of genteel basketry). She gleefully showed how any intrepid gardener can make the most of whatever they have to hand to create things to both enliven a dormant garden and give zest to any household room. Nothing seemed off limits: pine needles, date palm flower spikes, red-hot-poker or New Zealand flax leaves, river-stripped willow roots, garlic sheafs, grape vines, spent flower stems, ivy and gum branches. Quite an eye opener for this viewer!

Branch President Victor Crittenden talked about some choice books to lose oneself in over the winter months – surely one of a gardener's greatest pleasures. He noted some classics (Edna Walling's *Gardens in Australia*), biographies like R.T.M. Pescott's *W.M. Guilfoyle 1840-1912 – Master of Landscaping*, Richard Ratliffe's *Australia's Master Gardener. Paul Sorenson and his Gardens*, Victor's own *A Shrub in the Landscape of Fame. Thomas Shepherd, Australian Landscape Gardener* and books about gardens like Anne Scott James' *Sissinghurst. The Making of a Garden* and Lionel Gilbert's *The Royal Botanic Gardens of Sydney*. Interestingly he pointed out how few American gardening books are available here, odd considering how prolific and good they are. Ones to look for are Ann Leighton's *American Gardens in the Eighteenth Century* and Michael Pollan's *Second Nature. A Gardener's Education.*

Ginny West gave a sensuous talk and demonstration of the dimension of fragrance in a winter garden and in the house. She noted that fragrance comes not just from flowers but from bark, seeds, fruits like the quinces and japonica apples or ornamental quince, leaves (herbs, eucalypts, diosma). She described a range of ways fragrance can be enjoyed and preserved, such as in aromatic oils, scented waters and creams, in the bath, in pot pourri, clove balls for the wardrobe, perforated 'sealed' perspex boxes of fragrant flowers, forcing bulbs and planting scented bulbs amongst moss to bring indoors when flowering, even by growing lavender under the clothesline to scent the sheets brushing over (which reminds me of putting quinces amongst bedlinen to scent it and guarantee fecundity!). Ginny shared a wide range of flowers with winter perfume, like old favourites daphne (*Daphne odora* 'Leucanthe'), lavender, violets, Algerian/Stylosa iris, boronia, jonquils, wallflowers, jasmine, wattles, lemon verbena (*Aloysia citriodora*) or the native *Backhousia citriodora* and lemon scented gum (*Eucalyptus citriodora*). Less common scented flowers she noted were the Chilean jasmine (*Mandevilla suaveolens*), the Chinese *Osmanthus fragrans* (apricot scent), *Viburnum burkwoodii* and *V. carlesii*, Geraldton wax flower (*Chamaelaucium uncinatum*), snow myrtle (*Agonis juniperina*), witch hazel (*Hamamaelis mollis*), native mint bush (*Prostanthera nivalis*) and snowdrops (*Galanthus nivalis*).

Then there were the garden visits to three local gardens. These were described in the July/August edition of *Australian Garden History*, and I will only add a few observations here. Kelton Plain positively shone as a winter garden – the house nestles amongst old pines and English elms, which shelter the garden and whose branch structure and grey-fawn tones, complement the expanses of lawn and the predominantly grey/silver planting below. Bett Haslingden has let the setting talk for itself with a minimum of fuss, adding only low local-stone walls to define the major spaces, and sweeps of ivy or silver/grey plants such as dusty miller and lamb's ear for contrast. Two small enclosed courtyards cleverly provide sheltered private spaces for contemplation that can be enjoyed from in or outside the house all winter.

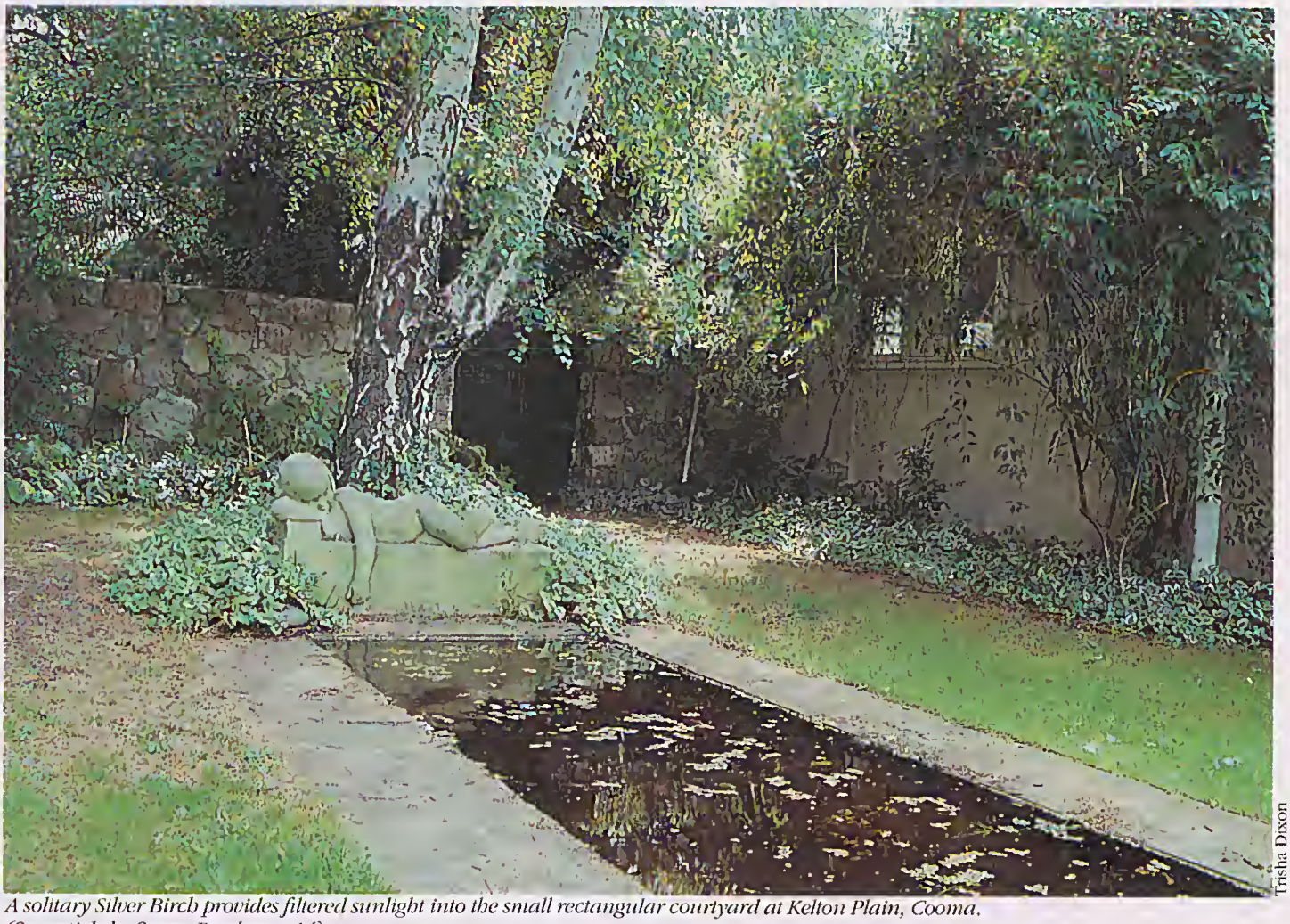
Coolringdon capitalises on a raised setting, making full use of mature elms, black locusts, poplars, cypresses and stone walls to define 'garden rooms' that layer down the hill from the house and beyond. An enclosed courtyard at the rear testifies to the house's humble farmhouse origins, and also to the clear need for respite from the summer heat and winter cold of the plains around. Ivy is beginning to take over this garden, which points to the issue of its ongoing conservation, although the rambling 'wildness' of the garden and all-ivy fairytale walk do add to the otherworld atmosphere. Again the use of large blocks of the same plant (such as ivy or hellebores) add impact and complement the scale of house and garden.

Hazeldean also sits on a rise sheltered from the elements by mature elms, pines and even a cedar tree. The house has a rather 'Capability Brownian' vista framed by the embracing garden and out to the plains and ranges beyond. Clever use of low privet hedging in crescents stepping down the slope from the house defines parts of the garden, and marks progress to or from the house. The front entrance of the house has a generous courtyard roofed with ornamental grape, which is a warm sitting place with a fine prospect. Also pleasing about the garden is the (winter-only?) peep views through the surrounding trees to the old stone stables and farm buildings at the rear, and (as was the case for all three gardens visited) the way the driveway is kept to one side of the house and garden, winding up through the woodland to meet the house. The experience of arrival by car is certainly catered for but not allowed to dominate the gardens, surely a lesson and challenge for smaller town gardens!

Many thanks to all involved in organising and providing a stimulating weekend, in particular to Trisha Dixon.

Stuart Read

Calendar of Events



Trisha Dixon

A solitary Silver Birch provides filtered sunlight into the small rectangular courtyard at Kelton Plain, Cooma.
(See article by Stuart Read on p.14)

DECEMBER 1994

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS/SOUTHERN NSW BRANCH

- Friday 2

Christmas drinks. **Time:** 6.00pm **Venue:** 'Hillview' (former Governor's country residence), Illawarra Highway, Sutton Forest via Moss Vale.. **Cost:** donation – $5.00 **Enquiries:** Trish Goodman (048) 683 581

WEST AUSTRALIAN BRANCH

- Sunday 4

Christmas social function to be held at Tranby House, Maylands. **Time:** 2.30pm-5.00pm. To view the progress of the redevelopment of the Tranby House gardens. **Cost:** Free Members may also view the house – National Trust admission fee applies.

SYDNEY & NORTHERN NSW BRANCH

- Sunday 4

Annual Christmas party/picnic. **Venue:** McKell Park, Darling Point. **Time:** 4.30pm. **Cost:** Free. BYO picnic basket, champagne, rug, chairs etc. **Enquiries:** Jan Gluskie (02) 428 5947 or Tempe Beaven (02) 969 3043

VICTORIAN BRANCH

- Monday 5

Christmas Party, followed by three talks on gardens. **Time:** 6.00pm. **Venue:** Williamstown Botanic Gardens.

FEBRUARY 1995

SYDNEY & NORTHERN NSW BRANCH

- Sunday 26

A talk given by Mr Roy Rumsey, retired grower and importer of hybrid tea and heritage roses on his life and experiences in the nursery industry. **Time:** 2.00pm **Venue:** Annie Wyatt Room, National Trust, Observatory Hill, Sydney. **Cost:** $5.00 including refreshments. **Enquiries:** Jan Gluskie (02) 428 5947 or Tempe Beaven (02) 969 3043

VICTORIAN BRANCH

- Garden and Landscape Photography Short Course 1995

A 'hands-on' course suitable for beginners as well as those with some experience. Course run in association with the Victorian Branch of the Australian Garden History Society. Course to be conducted by Elizabeth Brown (B.A. Fine Art Photography), a professional photographer specialising in gardens and landscape architecture, and with 10 years experience in teaching photography to adults and tertiary students. **Course location:** The Astronomer's Residence, near the Herbarium, Royal Botanic Gardens, Melbourne. **Course hours and duration:** 6pm to 9pm (one hour

Continued on page 11